

November 13, 2017

The Honorable Sean Duffy
2330 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Emanuel Cleaver
2335 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Duffy and Ranking Member Cleaver:

I am writing to express the strong support of the National Housing Conference (NHC) for H.R. 4258, the Family Self Sufficiency Act, which you introduced on November 6. We thank you for your work on this and commend your decision to move ahead with Committee consideration of the bill.

NHC supports H.R. 4258 because it provides permanent authority for the operation of FSS programs in privately owned properties with project-based rent assistance (PBRA). It is important to make this authority permanent so more owners of housing with PBRA can be encouraged to set up FSS programs. The legislation also makes streamlining improvements to the FSS statute and creates incentives for innovation and high performance by FSS programs. In addition, it clarifies that the FSS escrow incentive should stay in place until a resident reaches HUD's "low-income" benchmark, 80% of Area Median Income.

Thank you for holding a hearing on FSS and introducing this legislation. Please let me know if NHC can help you move this important legislation ahead.

About the National Housing Conference

NHC believes everyone in America should have equal opportunity to live in a quality, affordable home in a thriving community. The National Housing Conference educates decision makers and the public about housing policies and practices to move housing forward together. NHC convenes and collaborates with our diverse membership and the broader housing and community development sectors to advance our policy, research and communications initiatives to effect positive change at the federal, state and local levels. Founded in 1931, we are a nonpartisan, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. NHC's research team operated as the Center for Housing Policy until the organizations merged in 2013.

Sincerely,



Ethan Handelman
Acting CEO